US ERA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

## Recreational Advisory for Watts Bar Reservoir

The Environmental Protection Agency, the Tennessee Department of Health, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and Tennessee Valley Authority are issuing an advisory regarding boating, swimming and fishing on Watts Bar Reservoir.

## **Emory River Section**

The public is cautioned to avoid recreational use of the lower Emory River in the vicinity of the ash release down to the confluence of the Emory and Clinch Rivers, which includes adjacent coves, inlets, islands, and sand bars. Small vessel traffic is currently channeled through a well-marked navigational lane, but swimming, jet skiing; water skiing and tubing are not advised at this time in these areas. In addition to construction related risks, contact with submerged or floating ash should be avoided, and if ash is contacted it should be washed off with soap and water. Chronic exposure by incidental ingestion and inhalation should also be avoided.

## Clinch River and Tennessee River Sections

Water- based recreation on the Clinch and Tennessee Rivers should not be impacted this season and can continue. It is safe to swim, boat and eat most kinds of fish. See <u>TDEC's Web site</u> for more information about already existing fish consumption advisories.

EPA's advisory map can be found at <a href="www.epakingstontva.com">www.epakingstontva.com</a>. If you require further information or instructions regarding recreational use of Watts Bar Reservoir, please contact EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, Stephanie Y. Brown at 1-800-564-7577 or 678-575-8505. An additional point of contact is the Roane County Health Department who can be reached at 865-354-1220.